

# Plane News

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## December 2010 - Winter



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**Season's Greetings from County of San Diego Airports!**



*Thanks for another great year!*

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### **Look out for Santa Claus!**

*By Peter Drinkwater, Director of Airports*

As many of you have your minds on holiday parties, family gatherings, and what your Visa bill is going to look like on January 1<sup>st</sup>, let's get back to basics. Pay attention to following your checklist, inspecting your equipment, listening to advisories, knowing wind direction/speed, etc. Recently we have had several preventable mishaps likely based on distractions that caused miscalculations resulting in thousands of dollars in damage to property. Although these situations didn't result in injury, similar distractive behavior in flight might have a different outcome. And besides – you might run into Santa Claus!



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## County Airports, USMC Collect Toys for Tots

*By County Communications Staff*



Hundreds of less fortunate children in the San Diego area will have a happier Christmas again this year because of generous County residents, County Airports and the U.S. Marine Corps. Marines in full dress uniform were on hand at Ramona Airport and Fallbrook Airpark during two weekends in December where they collected new, unwrapped toys in the annual Marines' Toys For Tots campaign.



Marines collected the toys in person at a December 4 special event at Ramona Airport where twenty-five planes loaded with toys flew in for the day. Toys dropped off by residents and picked up from other airports filled six large Marine vans and three large SUVs. More than \$3000 in cash was also donated to purchase toys. At Fallbrook Airpark the following weekend, Marines collected another six boxes of toys in addition to \$1200 in cash.



In addition to U.S. Marines collecting toys, military vehicles and vintage World War II aircraft were on display.

Many thanks to everyone who participated and made this event successful for yet another year!

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## **What's the Deal with Storm Water?**

*By Bo Donovan, Contract Airport Manager*

Airport Managers are responsible for Storm Water monitoring activities at County airports; these duties amount to more than just watching the rain fall. Each airport has a series of outfalls that have to be inspected during both the "Wet" season and "Non-Storm" season. They must be visually examined to ensure the flow is clear and free of debris, oil sheen and/or odor. If any of these elements are found, an additional inspection must begin to find and correct the source.



Every other year samples of the flow from a designated outflow are gathered. The samples must be collected within one hour from when the flow began and then shipped to Irvine, CA where a lab conducts a series of tests. Results of those tests are sent to the Airports Manager, Storm Water Coordinator, and our Storm Water consultants.



Additionally, there is storm water enforcement and training. Not only are airports staff trained, but the master leaseholders and airport users as well. The basic rule is simple: "**Nothing may enter the storm water system except rain water**". One of the most frequent violations is the unauthorized washing of aircraft. Your eyes and ears must always be open and tuned to storm water issues. Sloppy storm water monitoring will result in an unclean, unsafe and non-compliant airport along with substantial fines.

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### [All Aircraft Must Re-Register with the FAA](#)

This Final Rule was published in the [Federal Register](#) on July 20, 2010, Page 41968. All changes established by this rule are effective October 1, 2010. This rule establishes specific registration expiration dates over a three-year period for all aircraft registered before October 1, 2010, and requires re-registration of those aircraft according to a specific schedule. All aircraft registrations issued on or after October 1, 2010, will be good for three years with the expiration

date clearly shown.



FAA's FAQs page:

[http://www.faa.gov/licenses\\_certificates/aircraft\\_certification/aircraft\\_registry/reregistration\\_faq/](http://www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/aircraft_certification/aircraft_registry/reregistration_faq/)

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## **Miramar College Aviation Program**

*By Peter Drinkwater, Director of Airports*

I recently had the opportunity to visit the Miramar College Aviation Program Center, met with college president, Patricia Hsieh, and participated in their aviation advisory committee meeting. This was enlightening and made me appreciate the quality of curriculum and service they offer. Miramar College is committed to serving the San Diego County Airport community through their aviation education and technical programs.

The Aviation Center is undergoing a complete renovation and upgrade of their facilities which will make it a real center of excellence. For more information, go to:

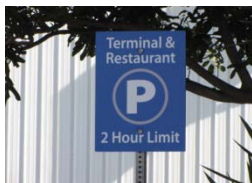
<http://www.sdmiramar.edu/instruction/avia/academics.asp>

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## **Restaurant Parking Now More Convenient at CRQ**

*By Anne Paul, Supervising Associate Property Agent*

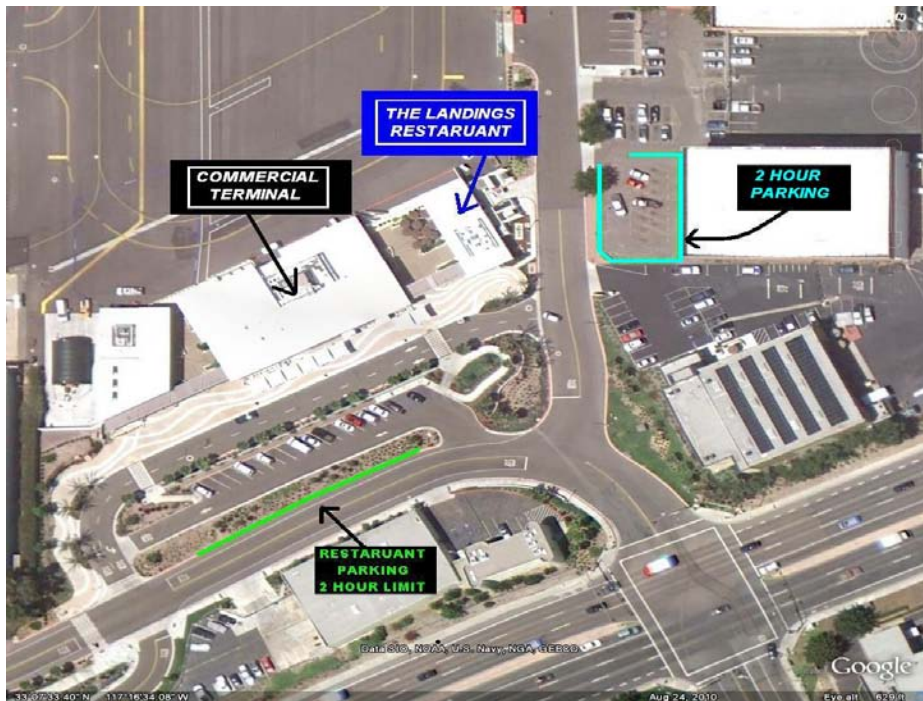


It's now even easier to enjoy the great food at The Landings Restaurant. County has established additional restaurant parking at the Airport with dedicated spots located along the main entrance road and a new short-term lot for Terminal and Restaurant parking located just east of The



Landings Restaurant.

These spaces are located on the map below:



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## **Borrego Sundowner Review**

*By Viki Cole, Contract Airport Manager*

Akrofest was a pleasant contest that provided the best Borrego has to offer: a bit hot (but not oppressive) with almost no wind. The flying was excellent and competition stayed tight to the very end. By this point in the season, pilots are at the top of their game and almost every category remained undecided until the end of the last flight.



The lead volunteer crew was just as impressive. Casey Erickson served as Contest Director; Bill Hill took on the scoring; Kate DeBaun debuted as Registrar; Garrett Lai was Volunteer Coordinator and I was honored to serve as Chief Judge. Yolandi Jooste was the essential utility player: driving to the corners, delivering paperwork, assisting and filling in at the Reg desk, solving problems and always smiling.



The small turnout meant Categories had to be combined: Unlimited with Sportsman and Intermediate with Advanced and Primary. In turn, that led to long sessions on the judging line for the grading judges. All chipped in cheerfully and have my personal thanks.

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## **Gliders at Jacumba Airport**

*By Roger Griffiths, Airport Manager*



Gliders of the Associated Glider Club of Southern California (AGCSC) can often be found at Jacumba Airport in East County on the weekends making the most of uncongested skies and beautiful mountain scenery.



Located about 60 miles east of San Diego, just off Interstate 8 and a few hundred yards north of the Mexican border, Jacumba Airport has a single gravel runway (07/25), windsock, segmented circle and small aircraft tie-down area. A center of glider activity in the 70's and 80's the airfield went through a quiet period for many years but is coming back to life with AGCSC's presence.



With a variety of glider types, both to support training and advanced glider pilots, AGCSC is well placed to support any interest you may have in gliding. For further information contact visit their website [www.agcsc.org](http://www.agcsc.org)

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### **Radar at Ramona**

*By Bo Donovan, Contract Airport Manager*

In the Spring of 2011, the last remaining air traffic control tower without radar facilities will be upgraded by the FAA. Radar equipment is scheduled for installation in early spring of 2011 and will provide a much stronger situational awareness for the controllers at Ramona Airport. Because Ramona is located in the exact center of San Diego County, it's airport receives almost as much transitional (aircraft traveling through it's airspace) traffic as it does traditional airport traffic.

The installation of radar will include a screen within the Ramona tower showing what TRACON (SoCal Approach) sees in the RNM sector. Ramona controllers will then "see" almost all traffic before the aircraft checks in by radio...a "heads up" if you will, from traffic about to be handed off to Ramona for operation within their airspace.

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